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CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

Tuesday, Aug. 23

Public Safety	9 am
Parks	10 ³⁰ am
Executive Matters	1 pm

Wednesday, Aug. 24

Budget	9 am
Public Works	1 pm

Thursday, Aug. 25

Zoning and Planning	9 am
Transportation	1 pm
BEDT	2:30p

District 3 Staff

Paulyne Anakalea

Executive Secretary

Gail Myers

Senior Advisor

Andrew Malahoff

Senior Legislative Aide

Francisco Figueiredo

Communications

COUNCILMEMBER IKAIKA ANDERSON DISTRICT 3 UPDATE AUGUST 2016

Aloha,

This month I had an opportunity to visit the Kailua Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant (KRWWTWP) to take a look at the progress being made on the multiple improvements being made this facility.

Patience and Progress

As with most major infrastructure projects, the improvements currently underway have been a long time coming. Unsurprisingly, the most common complaint this office has received over the last decade has been that of odor. One of the largest expenses associated with most modern wastewater facilities is odor control; both in terms of capital and operating expenses. With any large government expenditure there is always the drawn out process of studies, budgeting and permitting long before actual construction can begin.

What began as a series of equipment failures in the mid to late 2000s led to a comprehensive program to replace and modernize a who variety of processing and odor control equipment at KRWWTWP. This \$18M+ project is nearing completion and on the day of our site visit the weather was perfectly suited for evaluating the effectiveness of this major project; calm winds, high-humidity and high temperatures. The result is nothing short of a absolute transformation. Standing next to the large settling tanks if one was to rely on their nose, you wouldn't have a clue that you were right next to most of Windward Oahu's sewerage. Now, this isn't to say that there will never some odor—having visited some of the most advanced wastewater facilities in the United States, I can say that there will always be *some* odor—but it appears the days and weeks of odors wafting into all the surrounding communities are finally a thing of the past .

Mayor Caldwell notes that the two major odor control projects – Odor Control Phase 1 and Odor Control Phase 2 – are in the later part of construction and listed as 95 percent complete. Furthermore, one of the two Biotowers at the plant has finished construction work, while the second structure is close to being initiated. A biotower trickles wastewater through a bed of slime-covered media and is treated by the action of microorganisms that use the wastewater as a food source. Mayor Caldwell was able to expedite this major work by implementing a weekly facility meeting with the Department of Environmental Services and engaging members of the City Council such as myself. This is the kind of progress we can all be proud of and demonstrates how local government is being responsive to the needs of its citizens.

But the odor control projects were just one small part of the overall improvements. The largest project is, without a doubt, the conveyance tunnel.

(continued)

At a cost of \$180 million this three-mile long, 13-foot diameter, gravity-fed tunnel has numerous and significant benefits for the Windward community. Although the main purpose of this tunnel is to convey wastewater and supplant the aging area force-main, it will also serve as a storage facility helping to ensure that the processing capacity of KRWWTWP is not overwhelmed during storm events or when equipment has to be taken off-line for routine servicing. By giving the City the ability to manage the inflow of wastewater at all times it will help to prevent future discharges due to natural events. Working with Mayor Caldwell and his Department of Environmental Services (ENV) we have been able to get construction of these much-needed and long-awaited projects moving forward.

Real Property Tax Deadlines, Payments, Exemptions and Credits

This month and next there are two important dates to remember when it comes to your property taxes. First: property tax payments for the current tax year are due **August 22**; second: **September 30** is the deadline for the submission of all real property tax exemption and credit forms. While the City does now accept on-line payment of property taxes it is important to remember that there is a convenience charge for use of this service—which is used to defray the cost of the service. You can visit: <http://www.hnlpay.com> for more information regarding on-line payments.

If you own your home and have been living in it for at least a year, then you are eligible for the standard Homeowner's exemption which exempts the first \$80,000 of your property's value from taxation— if you're over 65 then the exemption amount increases to \$120,000. You only need to file for this exemption once. Additional exemptions are also available for persons with qualifying disabilities including totally disabled veterans. These forms are available online at: www.realpropertyhonolulu.com

For those on fixed or limited incomes the City offers a real property tax credit program which, depending on your age, limits your tax liability to a fixed percentage of your income. To be eligible for this property tax credit all titleholders can own only one property, they must live on the property, have a current homeowner's exemption and the combined income cannot exceed \$60,000. Because these tax relief programs are income dependent, you need to file for them every year. The forms for the tax credit are available at: <http://www1.honolulu.gov/budget/propertytaxcredit.pdf>

Malama Pono,

Ikaika

Kāneʻohe District Park pool closing for repairs

The Kāneʻohe District Park swimming pool will be closed to the public from Monday August 15, 2016 to Friday September 9, 2016. The pool will be closed in order to modify the swimming pool circulation system and install a new pump. This will ensure a constant flow of water through the pool.

The work is being conducted by Construction Engineers, LLC at a cost of \$118,375.

The Department of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Design and Construction would like to thank the public for their patience and understanding during this process to upgrade the pool. Though the closure will cause an inconvenience for swimming pool users, these changes will greatly enhance the pool for years to come and continue to be a great resource for the community.